PSYCHOLOGICAL LITERATURE.

I.—THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

Ueber Entwickelung des Hirnmantels in der Thierreihe. Dr. EDINGER. XIII Wanderversammlung südwestdeutscher Neurologen und Irrenäzte zu Freiburg i. Br., Juni, 1888.

Abstract of proceedings in Neurolog. Centralbl. 1888, No. 14, by Dr. L. Laquer. Dr. Edinger showed preparations illustrating the development of the forebrain in the animal series. The brain mantel only gradually reaches the high development which it attains in the mammals, but there is not an unbroken series from the lowest to the higher forms. The purely epithelial brain mantel of the bony fish, the cyclostomes, and selachians, was demonstrated. Between these and the simple amphibian brain there are no intermediate forms. The fundamental form of the amphibian brain is to be found among the reptiles, but among the reptiles there appears, with the beginnings of the cortex, the earliest form of the brain from which that of the birds and mammals has been developed. In reptiles first appears the Ammonsformation and the associated Fornix. While the mantel undergoes all these changes, the position and structure of the ganglia of the trunk remain in general the same through the entire series, decreasing, however, in relative importance with the increase in the mantel. Commissural fibres and fibres connecting parts of the forebrain with other regions, are found in all cases.

Untersuchungen über die vergleichende Anatomie des Gehirns. 1. *Das Vorderhirn.* L. EDINGER. (Abh. d. Senckenbergischen naturf. Gesellsch. 1888, p. 91 bis 119, 4 Tafeln.) Abstracted by Obersteiner in the Centralbl. f. Physiol. No. 12, 1888.

In the bony fish the brain mantle covers the basal ganglia in such a manner as to be usually overlooked. A cortex with nerve cells is wanting in all fish and amphibia, and in the reptiles the first form of the cortex with ganglia appears. In the reptiles, too, appear the first fibres of a corona radiata. In birds the basal ganglia are developed to an extent not found in any other group, the cortex remaining but little developed and first reaching its full significance in the mammals. From the basal ganglia (the nucleus caudatus and putamen) arises the basal frontal tract (basale Vorderhirnbündel) which runs in part to the optic thalamus, and in part to portions further caudad.

Anatomy of the Brain and Spinal Cord. J. RYLAND WHITAKER. Edinburgh: E. and S. Livingstone, 1887. 8vo, pp. 135.

The title of a book like the one in question does not at the present day give a clear notion of what it may contain. Some years back,